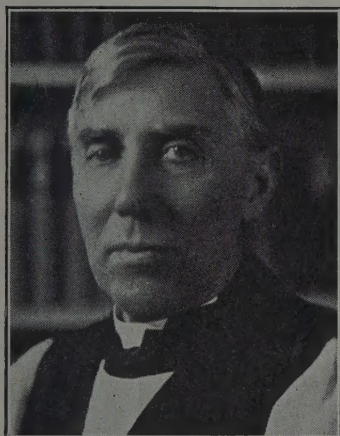


Federal Council BULLETIN

Vol. XXI, No. 9



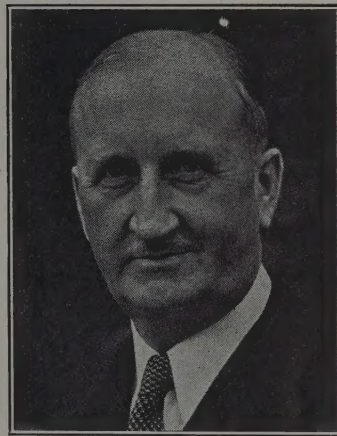
November, 1938



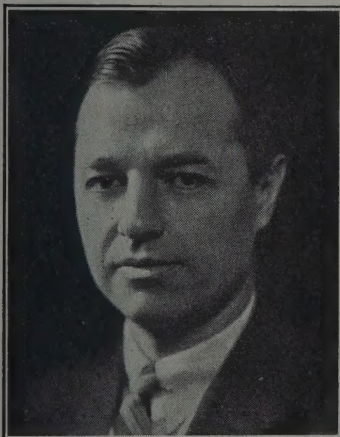
RT. REV. H. ST. GEORGE TUCKER
Presiding Bishop of the Protestant
Episcopal Church



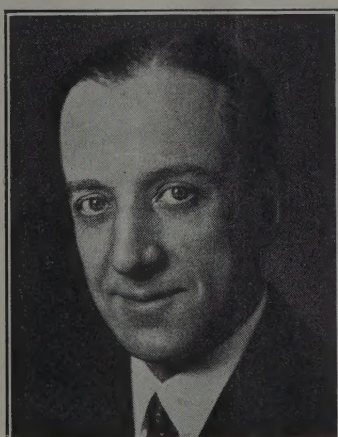
Miss C. M. VAN ASCH VAN WIJCK
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Council of the Young Women's Chris-
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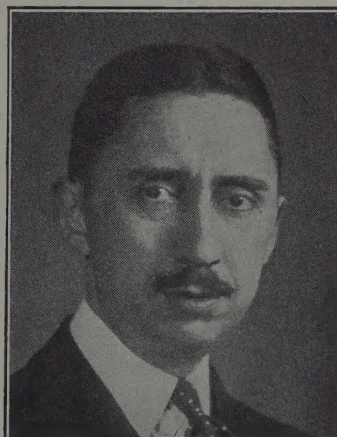
RT. REV. JOHN W. WOODSIDE
Moderator of the United Church
of Canada



CHARLES P. TAFT
of Cincinnati



FRANCIS S. HARMON
of New York, Chairman of the Lay-
men's Coöperating Commission



REV. RALPH W. SOCKMAN
Minister of Christ Church (Methodist),
New York

Six of the Speakers and Leaders at the Council's
Biennial Meeting, Buffalo, N. Y., December 6-9

A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION



Coming Events

NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP CONVENTION

Chicago, Ill. November 1-3, 1938

GOODWILL CONGRESS, WORLD ALLIANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP THROUGH THE CHURCHES

San Francisco, Calif. November 6-11, 1938

CHRISTIAN RURAL FELLOWSHIP, ANNUAL MEETING

New York, N. Y. December 2, 3, 1938

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Buffalo, N. Y. December 6, 1938

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES, BIENNIAL MEETING

Buffalo, N. Y. December 6-9, 1938

INTER-COUNCIL FIELD COMMITTEE

Buffalo, N. Y. December 9-10, 1938

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL

Madras, India. December 13-30, 1938

BIENNIAL CONVENTION, ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Columbus, Ohio. December 15-18, 1938

HOME MISSIONS COUNCILS

Baltimore, Md. January 7-10, 1939

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chicago, Ill. February 6-14, 1939

UNITING CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN METHODISM

Kansas City, Mo. April 26, 1939

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Federal Council Bulletin

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VOL. XXI, No. 9

NOVEMBER, 1938

THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

A Prayer for Victims of Oppression

Almighty God, who in Thy Son hast broken down the middle wall of partition between us and made us all one, deepen within us the sense of our common kinship with one another and with Thee. Be Thou the light that lighteneth the Gentiles; be Thou the glory of Thy ancient people Israel. Save us from all arrogance of race, from all contempt of creed, from all bitterness of class, and grant that Thy compassion, made manifest in us, and through us, may bear witness to the reality of our faith. Help us to be doers of the Word, not hearers only, that by our works as well as by our words, we may glorify Thy wondrous Name. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Christian Action in a World of Crisis

Twenty years ago this month the World War came to an end. The Armistice was believed to mark the beginning of a new era. Democracy had triumphed. Competitive armaments were to be abandoned. The hand of the oppressor was to be lifted from the backs of exploited peoples. There was to be an association of nations for peace. That was twenty years ago. Far from achieving these ideals, the nations are once more resorting to war and preparations for war. In 1914 armament expenditures had risen to four and a half billion dollars; in 1938 seventeen and a half billion dollars were expended. Contrary to solemn treaty commitments, certain nations

have resorted to war, in Manchuria, in Ethiopia, in China. And only recently the threat of war necessitated the removal of art treasures from the Louvre and set men to digging bomb-proof trenches in the London parks. Democracy is on the defensive. Dictatorships wax stronger. The League of Nations has failed to secure either peace or justice.

The churches cannot possibly meet the present crisis by ignoring these ominous facts. God is in His heaven, but all is not right with the world.

What then shall we do? There are those who see nothing for the Church of tomorrow save a retreat into the catacombs. We hear it implied that men and nations are so prone to evil as to be incapable of redemption. But the churches cannot without grave peril to themselves and to mankind surrender to any such mood of pessimism.

We are not in a position to say what specific policies in international affairs must be initiated if civilization is to be saved from disaster, but we are convinced that the necessary policies can be arrived at only through the process of conference. Resort to secret diplomacy, the creation of new alliances and the deepening of the cleavages which already exist between the democracies and the dictatorships offer no hope. The one path which affords promise is the convening of a world conference, participated in by all nations, which might arrive at policies designed to secure economic and political justice.

Armaments could then be reduced and the foundation laid for a universal community of nations freed from the handicaps of the Versailles Treaty. We believe that the people of our churches would like to see the President of the United States take the lead in proposing an international conference on economic and military disarmament.

The great role of the churches, however, is not in the realm of agitation for political action. Their primary task is now seen clearly to be one of moral and spiritual regeneration. By strengthening their own spiritual witness and expressing their essential oneness they will indirectly be doing the basic thing for international justice and goodwill. If the churches achieve a greater degree of vital unity around the world, the inspiration of that example may lead the nations to walk in the paths of peace.

American Churches Move Ahead

The statistics of church membership for the past year, as compiled by Dr. H. C. Weber, editor of the Yearbook of American Churches, and published in the *Christian Herald* last month, are decidedly encouraging. The gain in the number of adult members ("adult" being defined in this connection as thirteen years of age or over) is 754,138 over the preceding twelve months.

Of members thirteen years of age or over the total is now 52,156,226. This means that approximately sixty percent of the population of that age (about 87,000,000) are church members, Protestant, Catholic or Jewish. Since certain communions (e. g., the Roman Catholic, the Episcopal and the Lutheran) count all baptized persons as members, the grand total, as shown on the face of the returns, is much larger, 63,221,996.

An interesting sidelight on these statistics is that, in spite of the great number of separate religious bodies (212 in the last Federal Census) 97.5 percent of the church people in the United States are included within fifty denominations. American religion is not quite as hopelessly divided as is sometimes supposed.

The latest figures on the giving of the churches register modest gains, in spite of its having been a year of business depression. As reported on October 1 by the twenty-two American bodies included in the United Stewardship Council, contributions for all purposes for 1937-1938 were \$342,354,360. as compared with \$330,040,935. in the preceding year. The giving for missionary and benevolent purposes by the same bodies in 1937-1938 was \$56,151,875. as compared with \$53,793,095. a year ago.

Despite gloomy fears, the churches of America are a force to be reckoned with!

Where We Stand

In the "National Rededication," to which a group of national organizations, including the Federal Council of Churches, calls our people in connection with the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights in the American Constitution, we applaud the appeal for a deeper loyalty to our heritage of democratic principles and freedom in the face of assaults upon them from both "the Right" and "the Left." It is a needed emphasis. Unfortunately, there are not a few people who are loudly indignant against Fascism but are strangely silent with reference to Communism. Equally unfortunately, there are others who sound the alarms against Communism but seem curiously complacent about Fascism.

What is before us today is not the alternative of democracy or Fascism; nor is it the alternative of democracy or Communism. It is rather the alternative of democracy on the one hand as against any form of dictatorship, whether of the Right or of the Left, on the other.

We take satisfaction in the fact that more than two years ago the Federal Council made its own position crystal clear in the "Message to the Churches on the Suppression of Freedom," officially issued by the Executive Committee:

"In Europe, civil liberties are threatened from opposite directions. There is a Communist challenge on the one hand and a Fascist challenge on the other. Both rely on coercion instead of enlightening discussion and free persuasion. However much they may

differ in other respects, Communism and Fascism have been alike in suppressing political freedom and in turning to force for a solution of social problems.

"Against such dangers we must be on our guard, and no groups more so than the churches. In Russia Communism deliberately sets out to destroy the Church and to eradicate religious belief. In Germany a Fascist State attempts to coerce the Church into supporting policies which are contrary to fundamental teachings of Christ. Our opposition, as Christians, however, to the denial of freedom rests not only upon the danger to the Church and minority groups, but upon the conviction that the substitution of coercion for freedom is a direct challenge to our Christian faith in the value of human beings as the creation of God."

Unity and Decentralization

One of the least excusable misconceptions of church unity is that it means "one big Church" in the sense of a strong central government and administrative structure which would locate the control of its current affairs far from the people who constitute the Church. Neither the current outlook nor any of the important proposals for Christian reunion contemplates any such thing. The unity which is sought is the unity of faith and worship within a corporate structure which may be just as genuine in a decentralized as in a highly centralized form.

On what actual pattern might a relatively decentralized yet united Church be organized in America? The most frequent answer implies some sort of federal structure. Is it not desirable to supplement this answer by suggesting certain possibilities of "regionalism"?

All the denominations of the United States are ostensibly nation-wide in scope, but actually the vast majority are strongly regional and occupy limited habitats. Regionalism rests ultimately upon the physiographic and geographic features of North, South, East and West and the regions between; upon the various political, economic and cultural patterns which have been wrought; upon the incidence of rural and urban populations, and upon the living traditions which men have built out of experience of sectional conflict within the national life.

The Oxford Conference was at great pains to

confess the providence of God in the development of the separate nations of the earth, each with its own gifts and corresponding demand upon loyalties—always within an inclusive loving providence for the whole world. Have regional differences no similar sanction? Are there no special values which need to be conserved in the churches of the North, South, East and West—always within the Church of the nation?

Regionalism as a remedy for the unwholesome uniformities of civilization, as a corrective of its mechanistic pattern, as a check upon its mass psychology, as a condemnation of its neglect of indigenous genius, is being vigorously espoused in many cultural circles.

The possible utilization of regionalism in the achievement of church unity is illustrated in the case of the impending Methodist reunion. In making one church of some seven million members out of the three major Methodist groups, administrative decentralization has gone hand in hand with the merging of ultimate ecclesiastical authority. There are to be five Jurisdictional Conferences corresponding to geographical and cultural regions of the United States. Very substantial powers are assigned to them, most significantly the one of electing and controlling their own bishops. Reading between the lines, one may regard the Jurisdictional Conferences as a device for overcoming sectional opposition to unification. But why sectional opposition? Partly, perhaps, as a hold-over of ancient prejudices, but partly for the profounder reason that regional differences (expressed in moderation) may be sound foundations for church organization and life.

A large degree of regional autonomy in the administration of a united American Church would permit the continuance of the indigenous characteristics which the churches of different regions have developed. The united churches would lose their separateness but the traits and tendencies which they express might still furnish a regional flavor and atmosphere and preserve the values of variety. At least the possibilities are worth exploration, as an alternative to the idea of "one big Church."

Churches Convene in Biennial Council, December 6-9

PLANS already announced for the Biennial Meeting of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, which is to be held in the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., December 6-9, indicate that it will be one of the most important interdenominational gatherings held in many years. The meeting will be attended by about 350 official members named by the authority of the twenty-three coöperating denominations, together with invited guests, representatives of other interdenominational bodies and participants in the seminars on special aspects of the Church's life and work.

Two popular meetings open to the public will be held on the evenings of December 6 and 7. At the first, the general theme will be "Christianity in the World Today," with addresses by the President of the Council, Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones of Detroit, and Professor Reinhold Niebuhr of New York. The second popular meeting will be the public recognition of the thirtieth anniversary of the creation of the Council, the theme of the evening being "Christian Unity in Retrospect and Prospect." Bishop Ivan Lee Holt of Dallas, Texas, will speak on "The Progress of Three Decades" and Rt. Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, on "The Path of Advance."

Two luncheon meetings emphasizing the lay interest in the movement for church coöperation and unity will be held under the auspices of the Laymen's Coöperating Commission and the Women's Coöperating Commission respectively. At the first, under the chairmanship of Mr. Francis Harmon, Mr. Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati will speak on "The Man in the Pew and Christian Unity." At the second, under the chairmanship of Dr. Mary E. Woolley, the speakers will be Mrs. Henry Sloane Coffin of New York and Miss C. M. van Asch van Wijck, of Holland, President of the World's Council of the Y. W. C. A. (1930-38). Miss van Asch van Wijck will interpret the relation of women to the ecumenical movement.

The report of the Committee on the State of the Church, now being prepared by a special committee under the chairmanship of President John A. Mackay of Princeton Theological Seminary, is expected to arrest attention by its analysis of the present religious situation and its suggestion of the main points of emphasis in the biennium ahead.

Following the experience of the Oxford and Edinburgh Conferences, worship will be made a special feature twice each day. The worship services, both morning and evening, are being planned by Dr. Oscar Thomas Olson, of Cleveland, Chairman of the Federal Council's Committee on Worship.

A special anniversary service will be broadcast over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Co. from 4:00 to 4:45 on Wednesday, December 7. At this time the speakers will be Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York, minister of the "Radio Pulpit" and pastor of Christ Church (Methodist), New York, and Mr. Lenox R. Lohr, President of the National Broadcasting Co.

On the afternoons of December 6, 7, and 8, the Council will break up into a series of seven sectional conferences or seminars on the following themes:

- The Evangelism of the Church
- The Worship of the Church
- The Pastor and Personal Counseling
- The Church and the Family
- The Church and Industrial and Social Problems
- The Church and Race Relations
- The Church and World Problems

These conferences are designed to secure the full participation of all in attendance and to afford opportunity for a more intensive study of issues and methods than is practicable in a larger assembly.

The conference on "The Church and the Family," which is being held with the collaboration of the Committee on Parent Education of the International Council of Religious Education, will include among its leaders: Professor Ernest R. Groves, of Chapel Hill, N. C.; Rev. Ralph Bridgman, of Philadelphia; President Albert W. Beaven, of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School; Mrs. Regina Westcott Wieman, of Chicago, and Dr. Roy A. Burkhardt, of Columbus.

The conference on "The Evangelism of the Church" and also that on "The Pastor and Personal Counseling" announce Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell as one of their speakers and leaders. A complete announcement of both the topics and the leaders for each day of each of the seven seminars will soon be available.

Two "panel discussions," one dealing with "Strengthening the Rural Church," chaired by Dr. Mark A. Dawber, and the other on "The Relation of the Church to the Public School," with Dr. F. Ernest Johnson as Chairman, will attract much attention, as will also the symposium on "Christian Unity: What Kind is Practicable and Desirable?" In this connection, the new Moderator of the United Church of Canada, Dr. John W. Woodside, will report on "What May Be Learned from the Experience of the United Church of Canada?"

A "forum" will discuss "The Next Steps in Building a Structure of Coöperative Unity in the Local Community and the State," under the leadership of Dr. Hermann N. Morse of New York, and a second forum will discuss "Building a World Structure for Christian Unity," in-

cluding an interpretation of the relation of American Christianity to the World Council of Churches.

Much attention will be given to "The Christian Witness in a World at Strife." Mr. Harper Sibley, distinguished layman of Rochester, N. Y., former President of the United States Chamber of Commerce, will interpret the current program of Christian assistance to sufferers in China.

Among important items of business will be the following:

The Report of the Commission for the Study of the Chaplaincy, presented by the Chairman, Dr. John W. Langdale

Plans for the Continuation of the University Christian Mission in 1939

A Proposal for an International Preaching Mission in 1940

A Proposed Plan for Affiliation of State and Local

Councils of Churches with the Federal Council of Churches

The presentation and discussion of a plan for an Inter-Council Field Department, functioning in behalf of the several interdenominational bodies

The Election of Officers for the Next Biennium

For the first time, a special conference of representatives of state and local councils of churches will be held in conjunction with the Biennial Meeting of the Federal Council. In addition to participating in the sectional conferences and general meetings of the Council, these representatives of local councils will hold sessions for the consideration of their own problems at dinner each evening.

The Buffalo (N. Y.) Council of Churches, under the presidency of Rt. Rev. Cameron J. Davis and the secretaryship of Rev. Ross W. Sanderson, is host to the Biennial Meeting.

University Christian Mission Warmly Welcomed

THE University Christian Mission, launched as a united effort to strengthen positive Christian work in educational centers, began its program at the University of Oregon and Oregon State College on October 2. After a week there the Mission went to the University of Washington for the week beginning October 9, to the University of Colorado and the Colorado State College of Education for the week beginning October 16 and to the University of Kansas for the week of October 23. Preliminary reports indicate that the high hopes which have been entertained for the Mission are being realized in a large measure.

At Corvallis and Eugene, Oregon, the seat of the University of Oregon and the Oregon State College respectively, the first public meetings were held in a downpour of rain, but fifteen hundred were present at Corvallis to hear Dr. T. Z. Koo, and three thousand at Eugene to hear Dr. Stanley Jones. At the retreat on the preceding afternoon, one hundred and twenty leaders, faculty and students, met with the leaders of the Mission for conference and spiritual preparation. Among those in attendance were President Erb of the University of Oregon and President Peevy of Oregon State College, and the Chancellor of the Oregon Education System.

The thoughtful attention which the presentations made by the leaders of the Mission received is indicated in the issue of the *Oregon Emerald*, student publication, on October 6, which gives half a column to reporting the address made by Dr. W. O. Mendenhall, president of Whittier College, on prayer and fellowship with God.

At the end of the week's Mission at the University of Oregon, President Erb made an appraisal in which he said in part:

"I feel that it was an extremely worthwhile under-

taking, which stimulated a great amount of healthy interest on the part of the student body as a whole. In my opinion, the expenses and individual effort and sacrifice, all of which were so lavishly bestowed upon the Mission by the distinguished participants in it, could not have been used to better advantage. I think that the Mission accomplished some spiritual awakening of the students, but, even more, an intellectual stimulation of the students which produced a more enlightened attitude on major current topics of wide social import and a more tolerant attitude toward the mission of religion in the world."

At the University of Washington the aspect of the Mission which made the deepest impression was the fact that the fraternities and other organized houses of the campus opened their doors to the speakers. An observer of what took place during the week said: "The impossible was accomplished. No one thought that the organized houses would invite the speakers for heretofore they have been adamant. But the shell was cracked open and there were more calls for speakers than could be cared for." The members of the Mission have expressed the judgment that the informal conversations with groups of students in the fraternity houses, sororities and dormitories are probably yielding more valuable results than any other part of the program.

At the University of Washington a daily luncheon meeting for the faculty had an average attendance of about fifty. The seminars held at four o'clock in the afternoon for the more thoughtful students averaged about sixty each in attendance. Many of the speakers were invited into classrooms to give a religious interpretation of subjects which were being studied.

On the afternoon on which the Mission began at the University of Colorado, President Norlin opened his spacious home for a tea to members of the faculty in honor of the leaders of the Mission. Over two hundred attended. At the opening session Sunday evening there was an audience of about fifteen hundred. The Dean of the Law School presided. A similar program was being carried on simultaneously at Greeley, where the State College of Education is located. At the opening meeting there Dr. T. Z. Koo spoke to about eight hundred.

In connection with each of the Missions provision is made for a special interdenominational meeting of all of the ministers in the neighboring community on Monday

morning. In Corvallis two hundred attended; in Seattle about one hundred and fifty.

The continuation of the Mission throughout this academic year requires the raising of several thousand dollars more than is now in hand for the purpose. The leaders of the Mission, impressed by the great evangelistic opportunity which the program is opening up, are hoping and praying that new friends will be found to stand behind them with financial support. Dr. Jesse M. Bader, Director, writes back, "Nothing could mean more for the Church today and tomorrow than this work in which we are now engaged among the institutions of higher learning."

The Churches and the International Crisis

AT a meeting of the Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill, held on October 3, the attitude of the churches toward the present international crisis was discussed. A memorandum, which had been prepared by Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk for the National Peace Conference, of which he is Director at the same time that he is a member of the Federal Council's staff, was submitted, and since the policies set forth in it were found to be in accord with actions already taken by the Federal Council, the memorandum was commended to the churches "for careful study and appropriate action."

The general outlook of the memorandum is indicated by the following brief quotations:

"We believe the people of the United States will share with the people of other lands a sense of profound relief that a general European war has been averted. . . . Whether or not the Four Power Pact agreed to at Munich will lead toward general European settlement remains to be seen. . . ."

"We commend President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull for their timely and tactful leadership in exercising the moral influence of the United States in support of conference and conciliation. . . ."

"During these perilous days we have asked ourselves the question, 'If war comes, what will be the answer of those Americans who have labored so long for peace?' Our answer has been and is: 'The United States must stay out of war!'"

"But American abstention from war is not enough. We sincerely hope that out of this crisis there may be developed throughout the peace movement a stronger determination to remove the causes of war. The Czechoslovakian situation is but the symptom of a disease, the disease of world disorganization and one might even add of world anarchy. . . ."

The chief recommendation was that the United States should do everything possible to arrange for the convening of a world conference on economic and military disarmament.

In preparation for the International Missionary Conference which is to meet in Madras next month, a com-

mittee of five representatives of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill has drafted a document entitled "The Alternative to International Anarchy," with the subtitle "The Christian Contribution to Political World Order." The authors of the statement are Roswell P. Barnes, Leslie B. Moss, Vernon Nash, L. J. Shafer and Miss Florence G. Tyler.

The document, which constitutes a pamphlet of twenty pages, begins with an analysis of political world power from the Christian viewpoint and holds that the only alternative to international anarchy is some form of world government under which the nations would "(1) surrender the right to be sole judges in their own causes in international disputes, (2) abandon such offensive armaments as can be used to impose their wills upon other nations, delegating whatever police power is used among nations to a central representative agency; and (3) grant to a world political entity responsibility for the executive administration of such services as may be required to facilitate equitable change."

The document concludes with an appeal to the churches to realize the distinctive contribution which they have to make to world order. It says:

"Aside from the actions of political states, the Church can make its own contribution to improving the moral climate and working toward the ultimate establishment of a just and orderly world society by transcending national barriers through the missionary enterprise and through the ecumenical movement, by challenging the idea of national sovereignty and its expression in totalitarianism, and by resolutely advocating the world commonwealth of nations as required by its world view, its doctrine of the Church and by the exigencies of the present world situation."

The pamphlet is published at 10 cents per copy (reduced rates for quantities) by the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, and is also available from the Federal Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill.

Day of Prayer for Victims of Racial and Religious Oppression

AN EARNEST plea for united prayer and intercession for the "victims of racial and religious oppression" has been issued by the heads of the major Christian communions of the country. The call to prayer is an impressive statement of spiritual sympathy with those "who because of loyalty to conscience or the accident of birth are forced to endure persecution or exile." The statement of the church leaders of the nation, as given out at the office of the Federal Council of Churches, is as follows:

"We unite in inviting all Christian people to join in prayer and intercession on Sunday, November 20, for the victims of racial and religious oppression, who because of loyalty to conscience or the accident of birth are forced to endure persecution or exile.

"This inhumane treatment falls heavily on many groups in many lands and occasions acute distress of spirit in all who believe in justice and brotherhood. We would direct special attention, however, to the plight of those of Jewish blood in Europe, whether Jewish or Christian in faith. The inclusion of Austria and parts of Czechoslovakia in the German Reich has added greatly to the number of 'non-Aryans' who suffer grievous civic and vocational disabilities and have to endure all kinds of public ignominy. Deprived of their opportunity for livelihood, hundreds of thousands have no alternative except to become involuntary exiles and when they do so they are forced to go in an almost penniless condition.

"We would emphasize the fact that the persecution of those of Jewish blood is a problem for Christians as well as for Jews. It is a problem for Christians, in the first instance, because those who follow our Lord Jesus Christ must feel a deep sense of compassion and sympathy for all who are in special need. More directly, it is a problem for Christians because a large percentage of the potential refugees (at least half—according to the best estimates) are themselves Christians. If they are of Jewish ancestry, though Christians by personal profession, they are classified as 'non-Aryan' and fall under the same condemnation as those of the Jewish faith.

"The Jews of the world have been most generous in affording help to their own people and in countless instances have given assistance to Christians of Jewish blood. But we have no right to expect them to do this; to give aid both to Christian 'non-Aryans' in Germany and to the thousands who are forced to become refugees is a plain and inescapable duty of all Christians. We appeal to the members of our churches to respond generously to the appeal of the American Committee for Christian German Refugees.

"We plead also for a united effort on the part of all the people of God to combat the hateful anti-Semitism which prevails in many lands and even in our own country. We must recognize anti-Semitism, at home as well as abroad, as a plain denial of the spirit of our Lord who was Himself a Hebrew according to the flesh and who taught us that all men are brothers. In the words of the Oxford Conference on Church, Community and State: 'Racial pride and exploitation of other races is sin. Against these the Christian Church the world over must set its face implacably.'

"Let us therefore unite in constant supplication, and especially on Sunday, November 20, to Almighty God, the Creator and Father of all men—

for those who suffer most today from racial bitterness or religious persecution;
for the refugees who are forced to leave their homes by the thousands;
for a generous response to the cries for help that come from those who are oppressed by reason of their Jewish blood;
for the banishment of racial ill-will and the renewal of the spirit of justice and humanity among men."

The signers of the call include the following:

Rev. Ralph Atkinson, Pasadena, Calif., Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church
Rev. P. O. Bersell, Minneapolis, Minn., President of the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America
Bishop A. R. Clippinger, Dayton, Ohio, Church of the United Brethren in Christ
Mr. Willis M. Everett, Atlanta, Ga., Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S.
Rev. S. H. Gapp, Bethlehem, Pa., President Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church (Northern Province)
Rev. L. W. Goebel, Chicago, Ill., President of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church
Mr. Arthur J. Hudson, Cleveland, Ohio, President of the Northern Baptist Convention
Bishop Edwin H. Hughes, Methodist Episcopal Church
Rufus M. Jones, Haverford, Pa., Presiding Clerk, Five Years' Meeting of the Society of Friends
Rev. F. D. Kershner, President, International Convention of the Disciples of Christ
Bishop L. W. Kyles, Winston-Salem, N. C., African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Rev. Oscar E. Maurer, New Haven, Conn., Moderator of the General Council of the Congregational-Christian Churches
Bishop C. H. Phillips, Cleveland, Ohio, Colored Methodist Episcopal Church

Bishop John S. Stamm, Harrisburg, Pa., Evangelical Church

Rev. James H. Straughn, Baltimore, Md., President, Executive Committee, General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church

Rt. Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, New York, N. Y., Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church

Rev. Charles W. Welch, Louisville, Ky., Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

The action of the heads of the churches in issuing this united call to prayer followed a resolution adopted by the Federal Council's Executive Committee on September

23, proposing that November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, be made a special occasion for prayer for those suffering from persecution. A similar program has been followed in Canada, where the interdenominational Social Service Council issued an appeal for intercession on October 23 in behalf of the refugees.

Prominent pastors are sending letters to their fellow-ministers in most of the major communions, appealing for contributions on Thanksgiving Day, November 24th, for the work of the American Committee for Christian German Refugees, with headquarters at 287 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Research Report on Radio

CONTROL of radio broadcasting must be democratic, and censorship should be strictly avoided, says the Department of Research and Education of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America in a comprehensive report issued on October 11. The report, which deals with the problems of public policy in the radio industry, is published by the Abingdon Press (\$1.50) under the title "Broadcasting and the Public." The subtitle states that it is "A Case Study in Social Ethics."

The purpose of the study, which has been prosecuted for several years, was "to reveal the difficult process of building up social controls in the form of law and usage for the governance of a private enterprise which seeks to utilize discoveries and inventions in which the community has much at stake."

While the ethical issues involved in broadcasting are its chief concern, the report presents a great body of information concerning the entire organization and conduct of the industry. The several types of broadcasting—entertainment, educational programs and religious services—are described in some detail and the particular problems of each are analyzed. Controversial issues, monopoly control, advertising policies and censorship, for instance, are discussed from different points of view. The international problem arising out of the use of radio as a diplomatic instrument is shown to be exceedingly serious.

The development of democratic controls, according to the report, is a fundamental problem of the radio industry; governmental censorship is dangerous. Of this last, the report says:

"In a democracy freedom of speech is a priceless possession. No administrative government agency is wise enough to be entrusted with power to determine what people shall hear. Freedom of radio is almost if not quite as important as freedom of the press. If

either is curtailed, our political and religious liberties are imperiled. For this reason we believe any attempt to regulate utterances over the radio by an administrative government agency, except within canons of decency, propriety, and public safety clearly defined by statute, is dangerous and contrary to public policy."

On the other hand, since radio channels constitute a natural monopoly, ways should be found to keep these "frequencies" in the hands of broadcasters who serve the public "interest, convenience and necessity" in the fullest measure. The report therefore urges that the Federal Communications Commission, which is charged by law with the responsibility of assigning frequencies, should be responsive to community opinion concerning the merits of past services rendered by applicants for the use of frequencies.

In order to guard against political interference, prevalent over a long period of years, and also to guard against undue influence by self-appointed critics, the report recommends that permanent voluntary associations representing the cultural interests of the community accept responsibility for appraising radio programs. Such groups would include educational associations, chambers of commerce and labor unions, medical societies, religious bodies, and any other permanent cultural associations which represent a valid community interest.

The report contends that, if we are to avoid an increased centralization of cultural activities under the government, voluntary associations must function more vigorously and conscientiously in the development of standards to govern broadcasting as a public service. "We cannot fairly demand," it says, "that the industry be responsive to public need without making provision for the intelligent and considered expression of that need."

The study was made by Dr. F. Ernest Johnson, executive secretary of the Federal Council's Research Department, and Miss Inez M. Cavert, research assistant.

More Churches Approve World Council

TO the list of twelve churches announced in the September BULLETIN as having approved the plan for the World Council of Churches, at least in principle, five others are now to be added.

The General Conference of the Evangelical Church

The General Conference of the Seventh Day Baptist Churches

The Convention of the United Lutheran Church (provisionally)

The International Convention of the Disciples of Christ

The General Conference of the Primitive Methodist Church.

In Canada, two bodies—the Church of England in Canada and the United Church of Canada—have taken favorable action.

The General Conference of the Evangelical Church, meeting in Johnstown, Pa., in the week following the receipt of the official invitation from the Committee of Fourteen, headed by the Archbishop of York, unanimously voted to join the World Council. Although the

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the National Council of the Congregational-Christian Churches had earlier voted to become members, the Evangelical Church is the first American body to act upon the official invitation, which could not be issued until the Continuation Committee of the World Council on Faith and Order gave its approval to the proposed Constitution on September first.

The action of the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ, meeting in Denver, Colo., October 16-21, in joining the World Council was enthusiastic and unanimous.

A summary of the actions up to the present date shows that eighteen national communions in the United States and Canada have received the plan favorably and given some measure of approval. In several cases this approval has already extended to a formal decision; in other cases it has meant endorsement in principle or the appointment of committees to study the matter and make recommendations for further action.

Judge Allen Addresses Women's Commission

THE Annual Meeting of the Women's Coöperating Commission was held on October 26. The chairman, Dr. Woolley, in reviewing the work of the year, reminded the members that they were not a group of women doing "busy work" hither and yon, but called together to think seriously on all the Federal Council's programs and policies and to undergird those who are trying to make Christianity a real power in the world today. She emphasized their part in a study of the relationship of organizations of Christian women to the whole movement of Christian coöperation and unity. She reported plans for a series of meditations and prayers to be circulated monthly among the members in an effort to tie the group more closely together in thought and spirit.

The following have become members since the last meeting:

Mrs. J. N. McEachern, Atlanta, Ga.
 Mrs. C. Colton Daughaday, Chicago, Ill.
 Mrs. O. R. Sellers, Chicago, Ill.
 Mrs. Norman P. Livermore, San Francisco, Calif.
 Mrs. Francis B. Sayre, Washington, D. C.
 Mrs. Howard Thurman, Washington, D. C.
 Miss Marion Cuthbert, New York, N. Y.
 Mrs. John Foster Dulles, New York, N. Y.
 Miss Evelina Pierce, New York, N. Y.
 Mrs. Howard Chandler Robbins, New York, N. Y.
 Mrs. Robert W. Searle, New York, N. Y.

Dr. F. Ernest Johnson made a presentation of the problem of the relation of the Church to the public school and this was followed by discussion. The members

were asked to take this subject as a major emphasis during the coming year. Reports from members showed that much interpretation and coöperation had been done during the year. The morning session closed with a service of worship in the Federal Council's chapel (a gift of one of the members made since the last meeting) led by Mrs. Sprunt of Wilmington, N. C.

At four o'clock the Commission reconvened at tea at the Cosmopolitan Club where Miss Woolley, Miss Pierce, and Mesdames Hoyt, Merle-Smith and Coffin were hostesses to a number of friends who had been invited to hear Judge Florence Allen, who, with Miss Woolley and Mrs. Chamberlin, had helped to form the Commission, and Dr. Cavert, General Secretary of the Federal Council. Judge Allen spoke of "What Church Women Mean in the Life of the Nation." She gave a vivid picture of the great need for the help church women can give to all the higher interests of the nation and urged coöperation in the great spiritual struggle of the world today.

Lutheran Declaration on "Word of God"

One important declaration issued by the United Lutheran Church at its convention held last month had to do with "the Word of God and the Scriptures." The statement is not put forward as in any sense an amendment to the Confessions of the Church but rather an exposition of the Scriptural and Confessional point of view. The statement may be had from the Lutheran Church House, 39 East 35th St., New York.

Seminars on Worship Begin

The Federal Council's Committee on Worship, of which Dr. Oscar Thomas Olson, of Cleveland, is chairman, is beginning a series of seminars to be held during November and December in selected centers. It is the hope of the committee that such seminars may be of outstanding value to pastors and others responsible for the leadership of worship in local churches.

The first of these seminars will be held in Toledo, O., on November 15, followed by one in Indianapolis, Ind., on November 16, in both cases with the collaboration of the councils of churches in those cities. The topics to be discussed are: "The Centrality of Worship in the Christian Life," "The Christian Year and Its Significance for Worship," "Music and Worship," and "The Conduct of Worship."

A third seminar will be held in Chicago, Ill., November 28, in conjunction with the monthly Ministers' Meeting of the Chicago area, on the general theme, "Worship in the Church and Church School."

The leadership in these seminars, as arranged by the Federal Council, includes Professor Fred Winslow Adams, of Boston; Dr. Oscar E. Maurer, of New Haven; Dr. Oscar Thomas Olson, of Cleveland, and Dr. John Finley Williamson, of Princeton. In Chicago the Church Federation of the city provides as additional leaders Dr. Frank M. McKibben, Dr. Albert W. Palmer, Dr. Albert Buckner Coe, Rev. John Irwin and Miss Mary Alice Jones.

Communities interested in holding similar Seminars on Worship should communicate with Rev. Deane Edwards, executive secretary of the committee, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Contacts with Labor and Coöperatives

On October 9, the Sunday preceding the annual meeting of the Consumers' Coöperative Association and of the Coöperative Congress of the United States, the churches of North Kansas City, Mo., held a union service to which delegates were invited and at which Rev. James Myers, Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council, spoke on the religious significance of consumers' coöperation.

At the Coöperative Congress Mr. Myers reported as chairman of the League's Committee on the Relations of Organized Labor and Coöperatives and led a sectional

discussion on that subject. Mr. Myers was honored by election to the Board of Directors of the Coöperative League of the U. S. A. Dr. J. Henry Carpenter reported to the Congress on the successful Nova Scotia tours, which he has led for the past two years. Dr. Carpenter and Father George A. Macdonald, of the Catholic Rural Life Conference, were co-chairmen of a sectional discussion on "The Church and Coöperatives." Dr. George E. Haynes, Executive Secretary of the Federal Council's Department of Race Relations, also attended part of the Congress.

While in Kansas City, Mr. Myers conferred with a group of labor union leaders and ministers called together by the Kansas City Council of Churches to discuss closer acquaintance and coöperation, spoke on the Council's radio hour on "The Church and Coöperatives," spoke at labor union meetings, the Y.W.C.A. and a Woman's Missionary Committee on Christian citizenship. At St. Louis, the Metropolitan Church Federation called a conference on "The Church and Coöperatives" on October 16 and 17, at which Mr. Myers and Mr. Wallace J. Campbell, assistant secretary of the Coöperative League, were the guest speakers.

Mr. Myers also attended the first week of the A. F. of L. Convention in Houston, Texas, and arranged for a number of labor representatives to speak in the churches on the invitation of the pastors. He also stopped at Pittsburgh to discuss preliminary arrangements for labor speakers in the churches during the coming convention of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

News From Canada

At the Eighth General Assembly of the United Church of Canada, held in Toronto at the end of September, Dr. John W. Woodside, minister of the Chalmers United Church of Ottawa, was elected Moderator. Dr. Woodside is to be one of the speakers at the Federal Council's Biennial Meeting December 6-9.

The Canadian Church received the President of the Federal Council of Churches, Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones, with great cordiality and appreciation of his visit. A resolution following Dr. Jones's address described it as "both prophetic and inspiring" and "doing much to cement the ties of friendship between our two nations." As Secretary of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service, with which the Federal Council of Churches has

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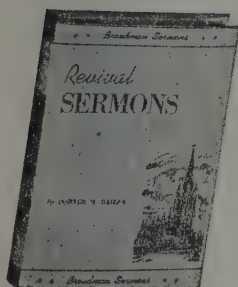
long had coöperation, the General Council elected Dr. James R. Mutchmor, succeeding Dr. D. N. McLachlan, who has retired on account of illness. Dr. McLachlan was Associate Secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Social Service and Evangelism of the Presbyterian Church in Canada prior to the union. When union was effected he became Secretary of the United Church's Board of Evangelism and Social Service.

For Temperance Education

In connection with the observance of the last Sunday in October as Temperance Sunday, as urged in a call sent out by the Federal Council's Executive Committee, a carefully selected packet of the most useful materials for the pastor in connection with an educational program in the local church was arranged by the Federal Council. The materials were chosen from among the publications of the various denominational and interdenominational agencies.

A limited number of packets is still available and can be had from the Council at 70 cents each, including postage.

The packet includes these booklets and pamphlets:
 The Local Church and the Liquor Problem.
 Liquor and Modern Life.
 Children and the Alcohol Problem.
 The Liquor Traffic—Its Costs.
 Alcohol Education in the Local Church.
 A New Deal in Liquor.
 Young People and the Liquor Problem.
 Sensational Rise in Liquor Consumption.
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A brochure of twenty-four pages, prepared by Dr. Eric M. North, General Secretary of the American Bible Society, tells the fascinating story of the translation of the Bible into a thousand tongues and interprets something of the significance of this achievement in its effect upon human life.

A poster entitled "And Now in a Thousand Tongues," suitable for hanging in parish houses and Sunday-school rooms, has also been issued by the Society.

Copies of both the brochure and the pamphlet, together with suggestions for the observance of Universal Bible Sunday, can be had by ministers of churches by writing to Bible House, Park Avenue and 57th Street, New York.

Retirement of Dr. Rice

Dr. Perry J. Rice, well known in the circles of the Federal Council as its representative in Chicago, where he has been secretary of the Midwest Committee, retired on September 30th as executive secretary of the Chicago Disciples Union. Since Dr. Rice is no longer to make his home in Chicago, his service to the Federal Council's Committee ended on that day. Dr. Rice has been in precarious health for some months and expects to make his home in California for at least a time.

The valuable service of interpretation which Dr. Rice has rendered to the Federal Council has been done as a labor of love for many years. Not only in Chicago but in the surrounding territory Dr. Rice has been a frequent speaker for the Federal Council and his office in Chicago has been a center of information at all times.

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The annual International Goodwill Congress of the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches will be held in San Francisco, Calif., Nov. 6-11. Among topics listed for special attention are:

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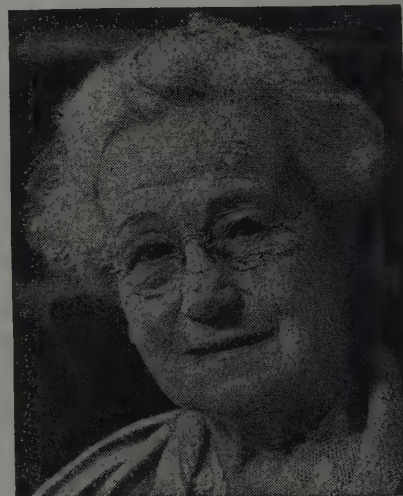
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En route to the Goodwill Congress several of the speakers and leaders held important meetings in other centers across the country. They were at Ripon College, Wisconsin, October 25-27; in Chicago October 31; in Portland November 3-4. After the Congress, meetings will be held in Los Angeles and Denver.

At the meeting of the International Committee of the World Alliance held in Larvik, Norway, last summer, Dr. William P. Merrill was elected president to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Bishop Ammundsen, of Denmark. The international organization of the World Alliance includes thirty-three national councils.

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NEWS OF STATE AND LOCAL COÖPERATION

Chicago Outlines New Relations with Boy Scouts

Until two years ago the relations between the Protestant churches of Chicago and the Boy Scouts of America had been conducted without any common plan or agreement. Under the leadership of the Christian Education Committee of the Chicago Church Federation an unhurried discussion of the Boy Scout program in Protestant churches was initiated and representatives of the Boy Scout organization were afforded an opportunity to discuss with representatives of the coöperating churches ways and means by which scouting could be made increasingly effective. A committee was appointed which met almost weekly over a considerable period and then presented a report which has met with warm approval. Under this plan the Young People's Division of the Chicago Church Federation is recognized as the official agency for coöperating with the Chicago Council of Boy Scouts. One of the Boy Scout executives serves as an advisory member of the Young People's Division.

The program contemplates increasing the number of scout troops, raising the standards of troops already established, particularly in regard to spiritual emphasis, securing adequate leadership in local churches for the troops, and integrating the scout program into the total program of the church.

Mimeographed copies of the report on the Chicago plan may be had from the Rev. Ray O. Wyland at the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Avenue, New York.

Maryland Emphasizes Christian Citizenship

Following an action by the Board of

Directors of the Maryland-Delaware Council of Churches and Christian Education, an effort is being made to arouse the church members of the state to a more active interest in two legislative proposals which are now being widely discussed. One of these is the so-called "Forty-eight Hour Marriage Law" which would require persons applying for a marriage license to wait forty-eight hours before the license is issued. Active support is being given to this measure. The other had to do with a proposed amendment to the constitution of Maryland which would legalize lotteries. Strong opposition is expressed to this proposal.

The *Church Councillor*, the news bulletin of the Council of Churches and Christian Education of Maryland and Delaware, devotes the issue of October 6 to an analysis of these two proposals. It reports the judgment of the Board of Directors on both proposals and urges every Christian citizen to "study the facts and vote as your conscience dictates."

St. Louis Has Christian Unity Vesper Service

In honor of Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Chairman of the Federal Council's Commission for the Study of Christian Unity, a Christian Unity Vesper Service was held at Christ Church Cathedral (Episcopal), St. Louis, on the afternoon of October 9 under the auspices of the Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis. An impressive liturgical service was used built around the central theme of Christian Unity. The address was made by Bishop Holt.

Philadelphia Launches Program of Pastoral Evangelism

The Philadelphia Federation of Churches held an all-day retreat on September 15 at

Beaver College as the initial stage in the program of "Pastoral and Congregational Evangelism" put forward by the Federation. Two hundred and eighty-three ministers of the city registered. Representatives of seven of the major denominations of the city indicated that their respective communions would adopt the plan, sometimes with modifications adapted to their own genius.

The plan lays emphasis upon the work of the pastor and members of each congregation. It contemplates enlisting the coöperation of all the agencies in the local church, including the Sunday school and young people's societies. A "constituency roll" is built up, giving the names and addresses of those whose decision to follow Christ and unite with the church is sought. Personal workers are enrolled and special training given to them by the pastor, with more emphasis on spiritual preparation than on any special techniques.

Copies of the program may be had from the Rev. E. A. E. Palmquist, Executive Secretary of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches.

Birmingham Inaugurates Annual Church Emphasis Month

The Birmingham (Ala.) Christian Federation during the first week of October initiated a new program which is expected to become an annual affair, designed to rally all the Christian forces of the city for the year's work. The "Fall Assembly," as it is called, includes inspirational mass meetings, luncheon and dinner rallies and seminars on specific areas of interest. Among the speakers who were brought to Birmingham for the program this year were President Albert W. Beaven of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School; Dr. Oscar F. Blackwelder, minister of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Washington, D. C.; Dr. C. O. Johnson, minister of the Third Baptist Church of St. Louis; Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, min-

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ister of Christ Church (Methodist) of New York; Chancellor O. C. Carmichael of Vanderbilt University; and Dr. Lloyd Clark, Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Louisville, Ky. The seminars dealt with three themes: "The Church and the Unchurched," "The Church and Educational Agencies," "The Church and Social Welfare Agencies."

The work of the Birmingham Christian Federation is in large measure an outgrowth of the National Preaching Mission in Birmingham in the fall of 1936.

Cleveland Features Religious Education

The Cleveland Church Federation gave major attention to the period from September 25 to October 2 as Religious Education Week. Dr. J. Quinter Miller, Executive Secretary of the Federal Council's Field Department, who was formerly Superintendent of Religious Education for the Cleveland Church Federation, was one of the main speakers. Mayor Harold H. Burton gave an address on "The Contribution of the Church School to Public

Morale of Cleveland" recognizing the service which the Church School teachers render to the city. In addition to an address at the public mass meeting on the same platform with the Mayor, Dr. Miller held special conferences with leaders in religious education in the local churches and also addressed a luncheon meeting attended by members of the Church Federation Committees and others interested in interdenominational work.

During the week a series of radio broadcasts was given over station WGAR on various aspects of Christian education.

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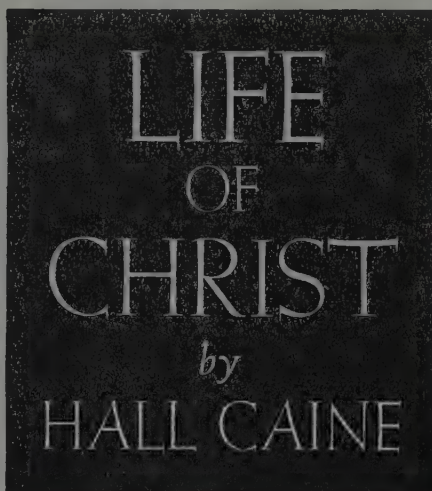
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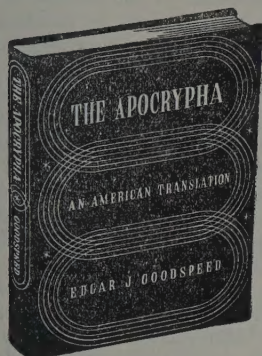
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Far be it from the reviewer to pretend that he was always able to follow the author's analyses of Barth and Heim, any more than he can always grasp the antitheses of these two thinkers. But Dr. Dickie's conclusions are about what the simple-minded Christian has felt through his own religious experience. He knows that he is guided, when humble and obedient, by a Being other (even if not "wholly other") than himself. C. S. M.

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An energetic and active pastor, Mr. Reese is perhaps at his best describing the routine but interesting pastoral calling necessary both to preserve a church and bring spiritual guidance to its members. Some of the methods used and suggestions made by the author are open to question, but the book as a whole is a stimulating account of the romance in the life of a devoted and persistent pastor. S. H.

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PLAN FOR MARRIAGE. Joseph Kirk Folsom, Editor. Harpers. \$3.00.

Dr. Bowman, who was Professor of Education and Psychology and Dean of Men in Juniata College and is now a pastor in Washington, D. C., has long been a friend of young people. His book grows out of many contacts with youth as teacher, as personal counsellor and as pastor.

He starts with friendship, offering suggestions as to making contacts with others and suggesting aids to friendship, such as personal purity, good manners, a sense of humor, unselfishness and an appreciative attitude. He finds that fellowship with God is a good preparation for human fellowship also. He proposes certain tests for the wise choice of a life-mate and discusses criteria of suitability, recognizing biological, social and religious factors.

An entire chapter is devoted to the problems of the engagement period—preparation for a vocation, relationships with the two families, living arrangements and budget, a church home for the new family, plans for children, division of home responsibilities and the basic attitudes of the two

toward the venture itself. The closing chapter deals with the wedding, the honeymoon, and the principles upon which a life-long happiness may be founded.

The book is useful either as a text for group study or for individual reading. It will be especially welcome to those who want the treatment of all these matters to have a strong religious flavor.

Dr. Burkhart, in the interest of further definiteness of analysis of problems, offers rating scales for friendship and the choice of life-mates, with suggestions on recognizing love and how to think about it. These have grown out of the author's experience with many groups of young people. He points out that, although some of the functions of the home have been lost, family life has gained other functions of great importance to personality. The book also has a wholesome emphasis on the family's relation to the community of which it is a part. The discussion of the various adjustments of marriage is enriched by an analysis of the reactions of a thousand married couples to a well-chosen schedule of questions. Five hundred of these couples were definitely happy in their marriages and the other five hundred were chosen because they were admittedly unhappy. The religious outlook is realistic and practical. Probably no book for young people on this subject would have a wider appeal.

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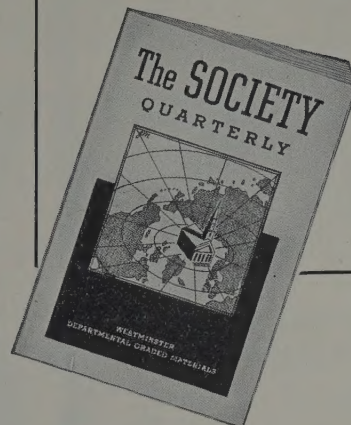
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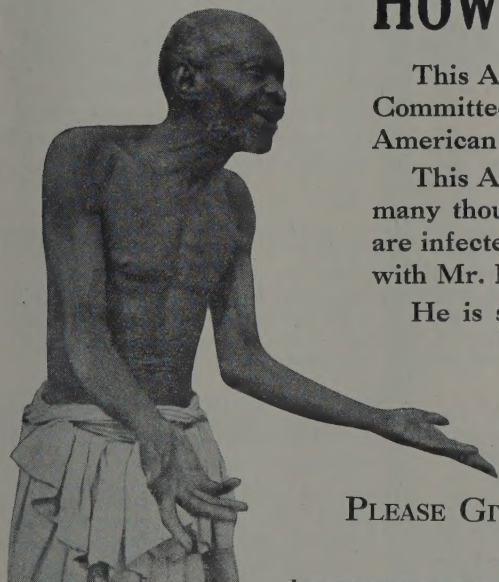
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